AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116–57

OFFERED BY MR. LIPINSKI OF ILLINOIS

At the end of title II, add the following new subtitle:

Subtitle F—Innovators to Entrepreneurs Act of 2020

SEC. 271. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the “Innovators to Entrepreneurs Act of 2020”.

SEC. 272. EXPANDED PARTICIPATION IN I-CORPS.

Section 601(c)(2) of the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act (42 U.S.C. 1862s–8(c)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(C) ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANTS.—

“(i) ELIGIBILITY.—The Director, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, as determined by the Director, which may include Federal agencies, I-Corps regional nodes, sites, or hubs, universities, and public and private entities engaged in technology transfer or commercialization of technologies, shall provide an option for...
participation in an I-Corps Teams course by—

“(I) Small Business Innovation Research Program grantees; and

“(II) other entities, as determined appropriate by the Director.

“(ii) Cost of participation.—The cost of participation by a Small Business Innovation Research Program grantee in such course may be provided—

“(I) through I-Corps Teams grants;

“(II) through funds awarded to grantees under the Small Business Innovation Research Program or the Small Business Technology Transfer Program;


“(IV) by the grantor Federal agency of the grantee using funds set
aside for the Small Business Technology Transfer Program under section 9(n)(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(n)(1)); or

“(V) by the participating teams.”.

SEC. 273. I-CORPS COURSE FOR COMMERCIALIZATION-READY PARTICIPANTS.

(a) In General.—In carrying out the I-Corps program described in section 601(c) of the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act (42 U.S.C. 1862s–8(c)), the Director shall develop an I-Corps course offered by I-Corps regional nodes, sites, or hubs to support commercialization-ready participants. Such course shall include skills such as attracting investors, scaling up a company, and building a brand.

(b) Engagement With Relevant Stakeholders.—In developing the course under subsection (a), the Director may consult with the heads of such Federal agencies, universities, and public and private entities as the Director determines to be appropriate.

(c) Eligible Participants.—The courses developed under subsection (a) shall—

(1) support participants that have completed an I-Corps Teams course; and
support participants that have made the decision to take an innovation to market.

SEC. 274. REPORT.

Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a report containing an evaluation of the I-Corps program described in section 601(c) of the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act (42 U.S.C. 1862s–8(e)). Such evaluation shall include an assessment of the effects of I-Corps on—

(1) the commercialization of federally funded research and development;

(2) the higher education system; and

(3) regional economies and the national economy, including private financing, public financing, and other company growth metrics, as practicable.

SEC. 275. FUNDING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Out of amounts otherwise authorized for the National Science Foundation, there is authorized to be appropriated a total of $5,000,000 for fiscal years 2020 and 2021 to carry out the activities described in section 273 and the amendment made by section 272.

(b) LIMITATION.—No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subtitle and the amendments made by this subtitle, and this subtitle and
such amendments shall be carried out using amounts otherwise available for such purpose.